

PROJECTED WORKS.—Advertisements have been issued for tenders, by 31st inst., for the restoration of a portion of Llandaff Cathedral (the Presbytery); by 9th April, for the erection of additional buildings to the workhouse of St. George (East), Middlesex; by 14th, for the execution and completion of the criminal court, &c., at Cardiff, Glamorgan-shire; by 4th, for the erection of baths and washhouses at Bristol; by 19th inst., for the complete restoration of the tower of Thormaston Church; by 21st, for the erection of a new north aisle to the church at Great Barford, near St. Neots, and otherwise restoring the same, and building a new vestry, with other works,—also for the complete restoration of the chancel of same church, with new roof, &c. (separate tenders); by 5th April, for building a stone bridge of one arch or more, or an iron suspension-bridge, over the lagoon, at Disserth, Radnorshire; by 2nd, for rebuilding a house and offices (chiefly with old materials) at Petham, near Canterbury; by same date, for the erection of committee-rooms and offices, and the enlargement and alteration of warehouses at the Stourbridge Wharf; by 23rd inst., for the excavation of a new reservoir at North Shields, and the walling of a reservoir there, both for the North Shields Water-works (separate or together); by 26th, for the removal of a portion of the bank of the river Clyde at Glasgow; by 27th, for erecting the works of a tunnel at Ilington for the Great Northern Railway; by 28th, for the erection of the stations, sheds, goods warehouses, &c., on the Shrewsbury and Birmingham line at Oaken Gates and Shifnal, and also for the stations at Alhighton and Codsall, and for the company's offices and several shops at Wolverhampton station; and by 24th, for supplying and laying down Cornish granite kerb, Yorkshire paving, flag-paving, pebble-paving, granite cubes,—also for taking up and relaying old paving, &c., all at Greenwich.

BLIND BUILDERS.—Tenders for the erection of a new wing to the Derbyshire General Infirmary, at Derby, Mr. H. J. Stevens, architect. The quantities were furnished.

Watts, Derby	£2,750 0
Cooper, ditto	7,970 0
Freeman and Co., Belper	7,850 0
Wood, Derby	7,400 0
Clark, Sheffield	7,315 0
Thompson, Edwin, Derby	6,900 0
Slater, ditto	6,750 0
Thompson, George, ditto	6,250 0

The lowest was accepted.

A correspondent gives the following list of tenders for building and finishing a four-roomed house, with washhouse and three privies, with garden wall 6 feet high from ground, opened by the surveyor, Mr. C. Foster, on the 12th.

Emery, Islington	£283 10
Bugg, Clerkenwell	231 0
Pilbeam, Ragsdale Wells	220 0
James, Islington	218 0
Blake, Clerkenwell	215 0
Gladde, Islington	215 10
Harwell, ditto	186 0
Kenwood, Hackney-road	180 10
Day, Caledonian-road	170 0
Pickford, Islington	138 0

THE "BURIAL OF HAROLD."—Our readers will remember a letter from a correspondent in the last number but one of *THE BUILDER*, on this subject. Further inquiry shows that the story given in writing (as we understand) at the bar of the house where the daub which led to the reports is, to persons who, much interested in the matter, went there to inquire, and which seemed to give colour to the case, was incorrect. The statement now is that only eighteen months ago the canvas on which it is painted had on it the portraits of two children. We fully expected that the story could be proved wholly groundless, and gave place to the letter, finding the statement current in several quarters, with no other motive than that it should be so. Our only regret is that Mr. F. R. Pickersgill did not, instead of addressing a note to us as little marked by courtesy as wisdom, avail himself of the opportunity which was in kindness offered him, and disprove the assertions which were being made.

* The story as given was, that the present owner of the picture had bought it four months ago in the "Cut," Westminster. His attention being afterwards led to the likeness of it to the "Harold," he learnt that the party from whom he obtained it had had it about 34 years, and that he bought it of a picture dealer in the Blackfriars-road, who had had it in his possession more than twenty years.

TOMB OF NAPOLEON, PARIS.—A French paper, quoted by the *Athenæum*, gives the following details relating to works at the tomb of the Emperor Napoleon. An immense circular crypt has been dug beneath the dome; within which, on three shafts of green marble, the sarcophagus containing the emperor's coffin will repose. The block of porphyry which the curious are now flocking to see on the Quai d'Orsay is destined to cover the sarcophagus. A lower gallery, paved in mosaics and lined with marble bas-reliefs representing the principal events in the Emperor's life, will admit the public to circulate about the sarcophagus. Twelve colossal statues in white marble—of which six are already placed—will sustain an upper gallery whence it may be looked down on and its details examined from above. These allegorical statues, from the chisel of Pradier, represent the principal branches of human activity—Science, Legislation, War, Arts, &c. A magnificent altar of black marble veined with white rises in front of the tomb. Four large and beautiful columns, also of black and white marble, support the canopy of carved and gilt wood. Ten broad steps, each cut from a single block of Carrara marble, lead up to the funeral altar. Beneath this altar is the passage to the lower gallery above spoken of, whose entrance is guarded on either side by the tombs, in black marble, of Bertrand and Duroc—dead marshals keeping wait at the door of the imperial dead. The marshals employed in the construction of this tomb cost not less than 60,000*l.* in the rough; the sculptures and bas-reliefs executed by Simart cost 24,000*l.* The block of porphyry for the covering of the sarcophagus weighs 45,000 kilogrammes; its extraction and carriage to Paris cost 5,600*l.*

DILAPIDATIONS.—On Wednesday last a case of considerable importance between landlord and tenant was decided in the County Court at Kingsbridge, by the judge, Mr. W. M. Pread. The plaintiff sued the defendant for 4*s.* 6*d.*, being the amount paid by him for repairing the glass of the windows of a dwelling-house, left by defendant on the 8th of December last, and which the defendant refused to repair. His honour inquired what agreement was made when defendant first took the house three years and a half ago? The plaintiff said that he could not recollect, but relied entirely on the custom of the country. He said he had been in the habit of letting many dwelling-houses of his own for the last twenty-five years, and had also been employed to some extent as an agent for other owners of houses, and had always relied on the custom of the country to compel the tenants to repair the glass broken by them. His honour immediately gave judgment for the defendant, observing, that a tenant was no more bound by the custom of the country to repair the glass of the windows, than the thatch or any other part of the house. Thus far the *Deronport and Plymouth Chronicle*. We should like to know where Judge Pread got his law from.

GUILDFORD DRAINAGE COMPETITION.—What are we to think of the proceedings of the Commissioners of Pavements with respect to the plans, &c. lodged for the drainage of the town on the 15th January last? The only information I have received has been derived from your paper of the 3rd ult., which was not of the most satisfactory description. Should the statement made by your correspondent, in the number of your journal referred to, be correct, I hope the competitors will take some steps to expose such reprehensible practices on the part of public bodies, and lead to the parties in question putting forth some explanation of what they have been about, and what they intend to do.—A COMPETITOR.

EMPLOYMENT OF THE WORKING CLASSES.—A public meeting of the trades of London has been held at the Hall of Commerce, Threadneedle-street, "To take into consideration the distressed condition of the trades of the metropolis, and the working classes generally, with a view to petition Parliament to sanction the establishment of home colonies, as a mode of giving immediate employment to the numerous but compulsorily unemployed of our population. Also to consider the propriety of petitioning Parliament for the establishment of local boards of trade." The chair was taken by Mr. Luke J. Hansard.

THE LONDON EXCHANGE CHIMNEY.—The bells of the Royal Exchange have caused some jangling, and have put the pipes out of several members of the Common Council. One of the Messrs. Mears, who have received the tin in exchange for their bell-metal, went to the court a few days ago, quite out of tune, objected to certain statements which had gone forth, and offered to make any alteration that might be required by the corporation. Of course he could not admit that his bells were cracked—thought perhaps that the epithet applied better to those in the court who would let their clappers run to his injury. Old citizens shake their heads, and say the new chimneys would never have brought back "Whittington."

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.—At a meeting held on the 5th inst., Mr. R. Lacon Sibley was elected an associate, and various donations of books were announced. Mr. P. Anson read a paper on the probable form and design of the Temple of Solomon at Jerusalem. The chairman announced that the council had resolved that papers read at one meeting should be open to discursive observations at the succeeding one, being of opinion that such arrangement would tend to elicit much valuable information.

DUNDEE ROYAL ARCH COMPETITION.—Competitors complain that they have as yet heard nothing of this matter. We are told that a very large number of designs have been received, and that the committee have divided them into three classes.

STATE OF HYDE-PARK.—Sir: I beg to call your attention to the curious manner in which the drainage of Hyde-park is conducted. Some time back the rain-water collected in the ditch between the Mount-gate of Kensington Gardens and the bridge at the Serpentine. This deep pond was allowed to remain a week or ten days, much to the dread of nursery-maids and children, and considerably so to pedestrians at night. Well, after a time, a pump was placed and the water drawn off, and as far as I could see no inspection made of the drain itself, which is no doubt choked up. The rain of Wednesday last refilled this ditch, and the same blind method will, I suppose, be adopted. I wish you would hint in your valuable columns, that the path running across from the Prince's-gate to the bridge is in a most disgraceful state of mud; and could you send one of your carpenters with his saw, to remove the rails, under which the pedestrian is now obliged to stoop, and perhaps break his back, it would be advantageous to do so.—COCKNEY.

SHAPE IN RESPECT OF AREA.—In *THE BUILDER* of 24th inst., your correspondent "R. B. Grantham," gives a calculation elucidating "shape in respect of area;" he says,—"A figure which has all its four sides equal, contains the greatest area within the same length of wall," viz., 80 feet by 4, equal 320 feet, equal 6,400 feet area. Suppose a circle 320 feet in circumference, the area thus circumscribed will be found to contain 8,145 feet, exceeding the space inclosed by a square (as above) by 1,745 feet. It is another question whether the increased space gained between circular and square enclosures (each having a like quantity of walling) would compensate for difficulties of internal arrangement, for such purposes as your correspondent alludes to.

JOHN KELLY.

TO OUR READERS.

It has been suggested to us at various times that some of the best architectural subjects given in *THE BUILDER*, if printed in a superior manner on good paper, with the accompanying descriptions, plans, &c., and issued periodically, would form a work that would be acceptable not only to those who are not buyers of *THE BUILDER*, but to many who are,—the current engravings being often creased by the news-vendors, or otherwise injured. We are disposed to try the experiment, and to publish, in a neat wrapper, under the title, "*BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS, MODERN AND MEDIEVAL*," about Eight Plates, with eight pages of letter-press, folio size, every second month, price half-a-crown. The first part would consist of Osborne House, with plan; Bridgewater House, plan and details; Church of St. Isaac, Peterborough; Kensington Union Workhouse; Pembroke College, Oxford; the Liverpool Branch Bank; and the north porch of St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol. Before determining upon the scheme, however, we should be glad to receive the names of such gentlemen as would be willing to become subscribers to the work.